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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE [GB/GB]; Defence Evaluation and Research Agency, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX (GB).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: DREWE, Lisa, Joanne [GB/GB]; CBD Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JQ (GB). BRIGHTWELL, Gale [GB/GB]; CBD Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JQ (GB). HALL, Elizabeth, Ann, Howlett [GB/GB]; CBD Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JQ (GB).

(74) Agent: BOWDERY, A., O.; D/IPR, Formalities Section, Poplar 2, MOD Abbey Wood #19, Bristol BS34 8JH (GB).

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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION METHOD BY TRIPLE HELIX FORMATION

(57) Abstract

A method for detecting the presence of a target nucleic acid sequence in a sample, said method comprising (a) amplifying said target nucleic acid so that the product of the amplification reaction includes a purine rich region, (b) contacting the sample with a peptide nucleic acid able to bind to at least a portion of said target sequence; and (c) detecting the presence of triplex DNA structures. The detection is suitably effected directly, for example using a surface plasmon resonance detector.